

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 PC-01 OMB-01 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04

SIL-01 OPR-02 SY-05 OC-05 CCO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 HEW-02

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1754

INFO USCINCSO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 4500

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, ASEC, AR

SBJ: SITREP NO. 13:LABOR CONFORNTATION WITH GOVERNMENT

1. CGT LAS NIGHT (JULY 4) ISSUED CALL FOR 48 HOUR NATIONWIDE GENERAL STRIKE TO BEGIN AT ZERO HOUR JULY 7--WHICH, WITH JULY 9 INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY, WOULD IN EFFECT MAKE IT A THREE DAY STOP-PAGE. CGT STATEMENT DEMANDED THAT PARITARIAS BE HONORED. IT ALSO EXPRESSED CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR MR. PERON WHILE AT SAME TIME REPUDIATING THOSE WHO ATTEMPT TO SEPARATE HER FROM THE WORKERS. THIS WAS SEEN AS PUBLIC ALLUSION TO WHAT REPORTEDLY HAS BECOME IN PRIVATE THE CGT'S PRINCIPAL DEMAND: THE OUSTER OF MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE LOPEZ REGA AND POSSIBLY MINISTER OF ECONOMY RODRIGO.
2. INDUSTRY HAS BEEN VIRTUALLY PARALYZED FOR OVER A WEEK ALREADY. STRIKE CALL WILL DOUBTLESS HAVE EFFECT OF CLOSING COUNTRY DOWN COMPLETELY.
3. WELL-PLACED PERONIST SOURCE INFORMED US LAST NIGHT THAT MILITARY

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REPRESENTATIVES HAVE WARNED UCR LEADER BALBIN, KEY PERONIST LEADERS

SUCH AS ROCAMORA AND LUDER, AND TOP CGT LEADERS, THAT WHILE MILITARY DOES NOT WISH TO INTERVENE, SOME DEFINITION MUST BE ACHIEVED SOON OR THEY WILL BE FORCED TO ACT. COUNTRY CANNOT BE PERMITTED TO REMAIN PARALYZED INDEFINITELY, THEY POINTED OUT, ADDING MOREOVER THAT THE LONGER THE PROCESS DRAGS ON, THE GREATER THE CHANCES OF VIOLENCE. PERONIST AND UCR INTERMEDIARIES SOUGHT AND BELIEVE THEY SECURED MILITARY AGREEMENT TO MAKE NO MOVE FOR A LEAST ANOTHER WEEK.

4. POSSIBILITY OF VIOLENCE WAS POINTED UP BY WHAT BABIN'S CLOSEST ASSOCIATE DESCRIBED AS AN ATTEMPT AGAINST UCR LEADER'S LIFE NIGHT OF JULY 3. BOMB EXPLODED IN CAR IN FRONT OF DOWNTOWN APARTMENT BUILDING WHERE BALBIN FREQUENTLY OVERNIGHTS (HE LIVES IN LA PLATA). IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS OF BODY FOUND IN CAR WERE FROM OFFICE OF PRESIDENCY.

5. ATMOSPHERE AMONG ANTI LOPEZ REGA FORCES WITH REGARD TO PERSONAL SAFETY IS ONE OF GROWING APPREHENSION. NEWSMEN, PARTICULARLY THOSE SUCH AS HERIBERTO KAHN OF LA OPINION WHO HAVE FILED STORIES ON THE MOST SENSITIVE AND CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES, ARE NOW LIVING SEMI-CLandestine EXISTENCES, SLEEPING AT HOMES OF FRIENDS AND BEING ESCORTED AROUND TOWN BY COLLEAGUES.

6. SENATE NOW BEING URGED BY OTHER SECTORS TO RESOLVE SUCCESSION PROBLEM WITHOUT DELAY, WHETHER BY ELECTING PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT OF SENATE OR QUICK PASSAGE OF NEW LAW OF SUCCESSION. INTERIOR MINISTER ROCAMORA WILL SEND DRAFT LAW TO SENATE JULY 7. IT APPARENTLY LEAVES IT UP TO CONGRESS TO ELECT PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC FROM AMONG CONGRESSMEN, CABINET MEMBERS OR SUPREME COURT JUSTICES IN EVENT BOTH PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT INCAPACITATED OR ABSENT. SENATE EXPECTED TO ACT ONE WAY OR THE OTHER WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS.

7. ROCAMORA, HAVING INFORMED BALBIN, KEY PERONIST SENATORS AND OTHERS OF HIS INTENTION TO RESIGN, HAS BEEN ASKED BY THEM TO STAY ON AT LEAST FOR A FEW MORE DAYS AS HE ONE OF THE FEW IN TOP LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT IN WHOM THEY HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE.

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8. IN ANNUAL CAMRADERIE DINNER SPEECH LAST NIGHT, MRS. PERON EMPHASIZED CONSTITUTIONAL ROLE OF MILITARY AND STEERED COMPLETELY AWAY FROM ANY REFERENCE TO PRESENT CRISIS.

9 COMMENT: WITH CALL FOR GENERAL STRIKE, AT MIDNIGHT JULY 6 TWO SIDES WILL COME TO FULL COLLISION. THERE IS STILL TIME FOR GOVERNMENT AND LABOR TO COMPROMISE BETWEEN NOW AND THEN. IF NOT, OUTCOME

UNCERTAIN.

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